CHARLTON COMICS GROUP
THE FIGHTIN' 5
NO. 44
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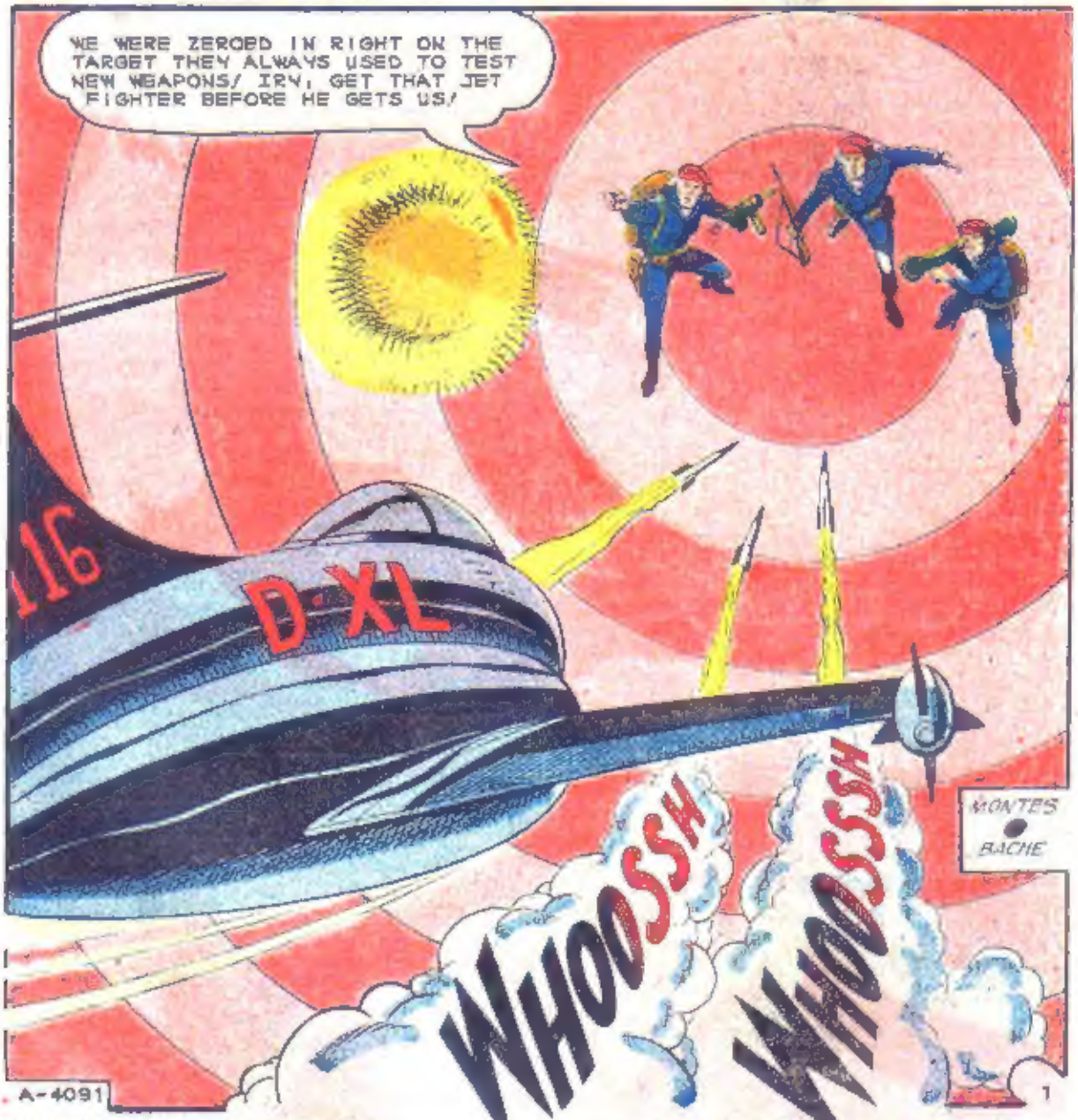
CHARLTON PUBLICATION
THE FIGHTIN' 5
WE'VE GOT TO STOP IT!
HOW?
IMPOSSIBLE!
THERE HAS NEVER BEEN AN ENEMY SUCH AS THIS...
MIGHTY... ALL-POWERFUL... UN-BEATABLE!
00352
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

"BIG-D" WAS THE NAME THEY USED WHEN REFERRING TO GENERAL DYNAMOTORS LTD. IN STOCK EXCHANGES AND FINANCIAL PAPERS ALL OVER THE WORLD/ THE MAN ON THE STREET KNEW ABOUT "BIG-D"...TO THE AVERAGE CITIZEN IT REPRESENTED STABILITY, PROGRESS, TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW/ BIG-D BUILT TRUCKS, CARS, MISSILES, OCEAN-LINERS, IT CREATED NEW STEELS, FABRICS, EVERYTHING NEEDED BY MODERN-DAY MAN/ IT SEEMED IMPREGNABLE...INTERNATIONAL IN SCOPE, GREATER THAN SOME NATIONS, WEALTHIER THAN ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES EXCEPT A FEW/ HOW DID THE FIGHTIN' FIVE GET TANGLED UP WITH THIS FINANCIAL COLOSSUS? WHAT LED THEM HERE TO BIG-D'S PROVING GROUND? TO THE PLACE WHERE THEY CAME CLOSER TO DEATH THAN EVER BEFORE/

THE RANSOM OF "BIG-D"



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HANK HENNESSEY WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO GROW IRATE WITH "BIG-D"...ONE SPRING DAY HE PURCHASED A NEW SPORTS CAR, MANUFACTURED BY A "BIG-D" SUBSIDIARY/

THIS SPORTS CAR IS GUARANTEED TO TRAVEL AT 190 MILES PER HOUR, MR. HENNESSEY/ ENTER PLEASE, MADEMOISELLE DARBOT/

MERCI, MONSIEUR/ HURRY, DARLING, YOU KNOW HOW I LOVE TO GO VER' FAST/

HANK HENNESSEY, ONE OF THE MOST EXPERT RACING DRIVERS IN THE WORLD, LOST NO TIME IN FINDING A DESERTED STRETCH OF BLACK-TOP ROAD AND...

FASTER, HANK, DARLING... BUT STOP IT FROM WOBBLING SO/

ZOOOOMMM

I CAN'T...THE STEERING ASSEMBLY IS LOOSE/ YOU STRAPPED IN? GOOD/

SCRREECCHHH

WE'RE GOING OVER/ GET DOWN/

SO HANK HENNESSEY APPEARED BACK AT THE SALES AGENCY TO REGISTER A COMPLAINT/

I WANT TO SEE THE SERVICE MANAGER/ I WANT TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE CONDITION OF A SPORTS CAR I PURCHASED EARLIER TODAY/

MOTUA

AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME THE CAR WAS SMASHING ITSELF TO PIECES, "IRV THE NERVE" WAS PARTICIPATING IN A PARACHUTISTS' RALLY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE! IN FACT, HE WAS EXECUTING A DELAYED DROP...

"IRV THE NERVE" IS REALLY IN SPECTACULAR FORM TODAY!

BUT "IRV THE NERVE" WASN'T REALLY THAT SPECTACULAR! AS THE GROUND HURTLED UP AT HIM, HE YANKED HARD ON THE SECOND RELEASE CORD...AFTER THE FIRST HAD YANKED LOOSE...UNATTACHED TO THE CHUTE IN THE PACK!

TWO DEFECTIVE RIP-CORDS IN ONE JUMP!

IF I CAN CUT THIS STRAP...THE CHUTE WILL OPEN WITHOUT A CORD!

WITHOUT A SECOND TO SPARE, IRV MANAGED TO CUT THE STRAP, RELEASING THE CHUTE!

THESE CHUTES WERE PREPARED BY A "BIG-D" COMPANY!

AND GRANITE GALLERO DOING AN "EVALUATION MISSION" CHORE FOR THE ARMORED RESEARCHISTS IN THE PENTAGON HAD A FEW PROBLEMS TOO...DRIVING A NEW HEAVY TANK ENGINEERED AND CONSTRUCTED BY GENERAL DYNAMOTORS, HE WAS HALFWAY THROUGH THE TESTS...

OH, MY! GRANITE GALLERO WILL NEVER GET OUT OF THERE ALIVE!

CRASH

BUT THE PENTAGON FANCYPANTS DIDN'T KNOW GRANITE GALLERO, ONE OF THE FIGHTIN' 5!

WAIT'LL I GET MY MITTS ON THAT BIG-D ENGINEER! I TOLD HIM THOSE FUEL LINES WOULD SNAP! I'LL TEAR HIM APART!

SO, WHEN THE FIGHTIN' 5 MET A FEW DAYS LATER ABOARD HANK HENNESSEY'S YACHT, BIT WORSE FOR WEAR...AND ALL EQUALLY IRRITATED WITH "BIG D"!

WE LOOK LIKE THE ACCIDENT WARD ON A BAD DAY! WHAT HAPPENED, IRV?

A BIG-D PARACHUTE FAILED TO OPEN, HANK! WHAT ABOUT YOU?

A BIG-D SPORTS CAR CAME APART ON A HAIRPIN TURN! POOR BRIGITTE IS IN MUCH WORSE SHAPE...AND SHE WAS IN SUCH BEAUTIFUL SHAPE BEFORE THE ACCIDENT!

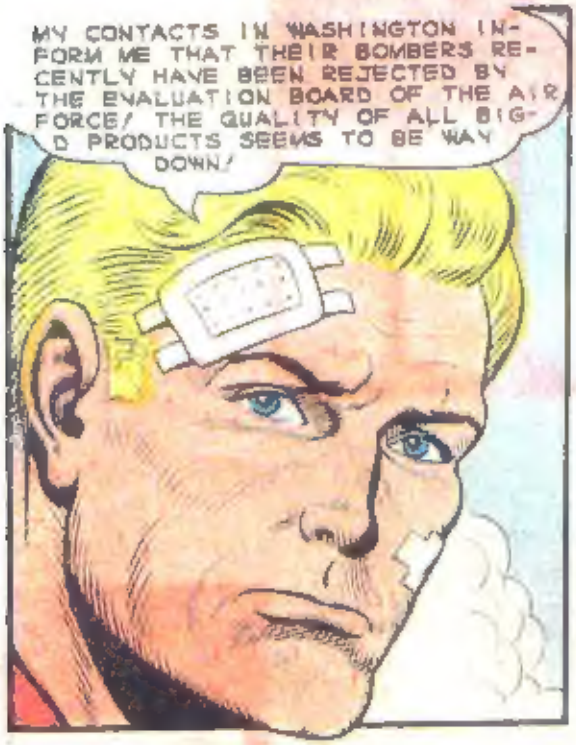
HANK, SOMETHING'S FUNNY HERE! A BIG-D BUILT HEAVY TANK BLEW UP IN MY FACE ON THE TEST COURSE IN MARYLAND YESTERDAY!

YOU KNOW, THERE'S A SAYING...HOW BIG-D GOES, SO GOES THE WORLD? THIS, UNFORTUNATELY, IS ALMOST TRUE! BIG-D IS AN INDUSTRIAL GIANT...MANUFACTURING MOTORCARS, BOMBERS, HEAVY TANKS, ARTILLERY, EVEN SHIPS, LADIES UNDERWEAR, AND HAIRPINS!

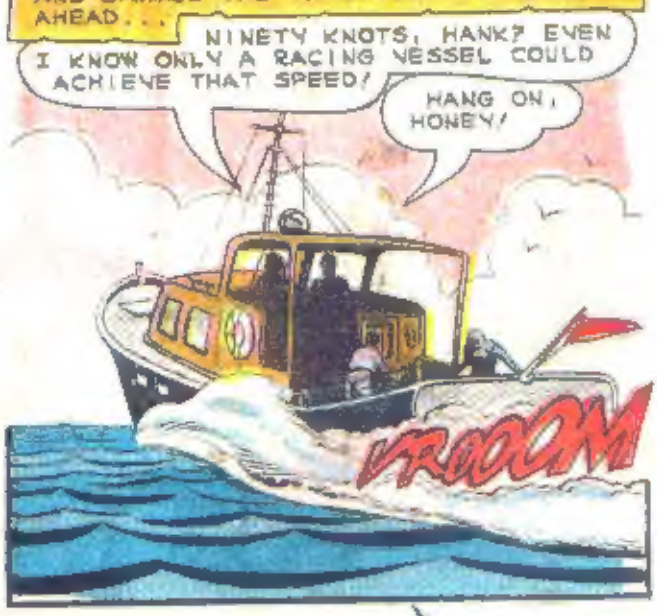
I OWN SOME SHARES OF THIS STOCK, PART OF MY GRANDFATHER'S ESTATE, BLESS HIM! BUT I SHALL USE THIS AS A REASON FOR SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT BIG-D'S OPERATIONS! YOU GENTLEMEN SHALL ASSIST ME, NATURALLY!

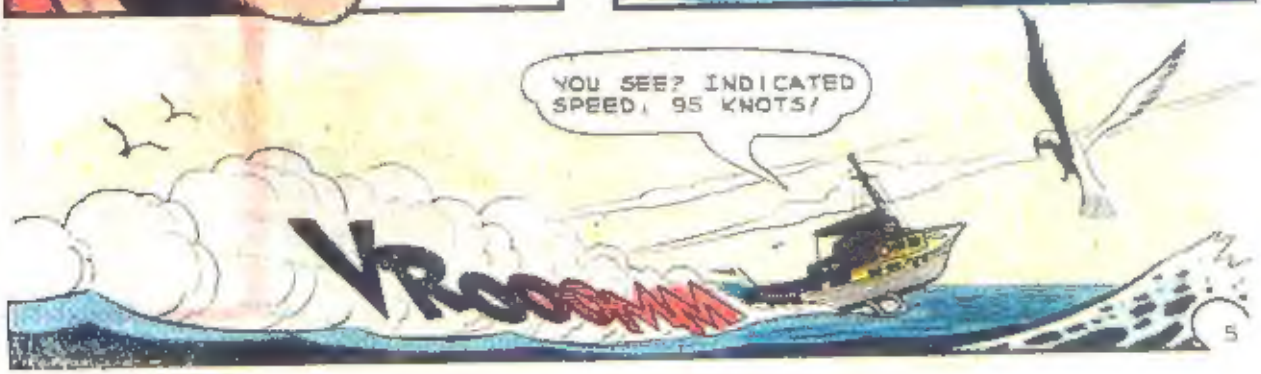
YES, PRESCOTT, GIVE ME A RUNDOWN ON BIG-D'S ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS/ AN EVALUATION OF BIG-D SUBSIDIARIES TOO, NATURALLY/

AN HOUR LATER, THE RADIOTELEPHONE GAVE HANK HENNESSEY, A VERY RICH YOUNG MAN, ALL THE INFORMATION HE DESIRED/


MY CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON INFORM ME THAT THEIR BOMBERS RECENTLY HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY THE EVALUATION BOARD OF THE AIR FORCE/ THE QUALITY OF ALL BIG-D PRODUCTS SEEMS TO BE WAY DOWN/

HANK HENNESSEY AND HIS FOUR COMPANIONS CAME TO ONE CONCLUSION/ THEY HAD TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BIG-D/ YOUNG HENNESSEY TOOK THE CONTROLS AND JAMMED THE THROTTLES TO FULL AHEAD...





IT TOOK LESS THAN ONE HOUR TO ARRIVE AT HANK HENNESSEY'S TOWN HOUSE...WHERE THERE WERE SPECIAL LABS, AN ARMORY CONTAINING EVERY TYPE OF MODERN WEAPON, AND THE OTHER FACILITIES SUCH A GROUP OF FIGHTING MIGHT NEED!

NOW, WE'VE ALL GOT THE ARMS AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT WE DECIDED UPON! ANYTHING GOOD, IRV?

YES, HANK...I HAVE THE CITY PLANNERS' CHARTS...WITH DETAILED SEWER MAPS HERE! STORM SEWERS, USED TO DIVERT FLOODWATER ONLY, LEAD BELOW THE FENCE INTO BIG-D'S PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURING AREA! POWER CABLES AND TELEPHONE CABLES ARE DOWN THERE TOO, VULNERABLE TO US IN EVERY WAY! TOM-TOM AND FRENCHY ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE KIND OF WORK WE MAY HAVE TO DO DOWN THERE!

YOU READY, GRANITE? YOU'VE GOT A FAT BRIEFCASE THERE! NEED ALL THAT PAPER?

NO PAPER, CHIEF... PHOSPHOROUS GRENADES JUST IN CASE!

THEIR OWN SMALL JET WAS WAITING AT LAGUARDIA AIRPORT! WITH HANK AT THE CONTROLS, THEY BLASTED OFF...

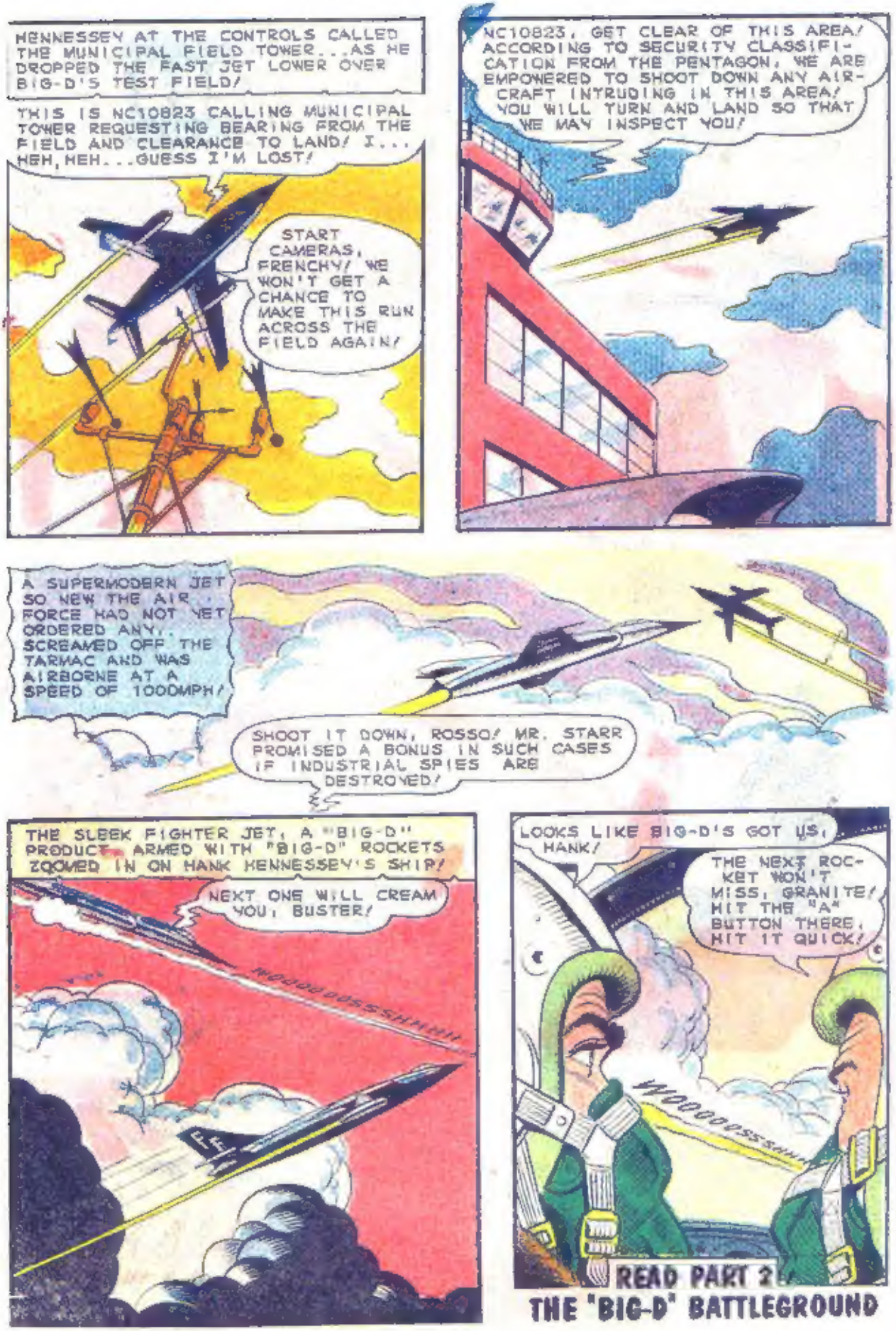
THE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE PODS AREN'T IN PLACE, HANK!

NO, WE'RE NOT ENTIRELY HARMLESS! WE'VE GOT SOME STING IN CASE WE NEED IT!

THEIR DESTINATION, A MIDWESTERN INDUSTRIAL CITY, LOOMED AHEAD ON THE HORIZON! HANK HENNESSEY, ON IMPULSE, CHANGED COURSE SLIGHTLY!

WE'RE OFF-COURSE, HANK! HEADING RIGHT FOR BIG-D'S TESTING...

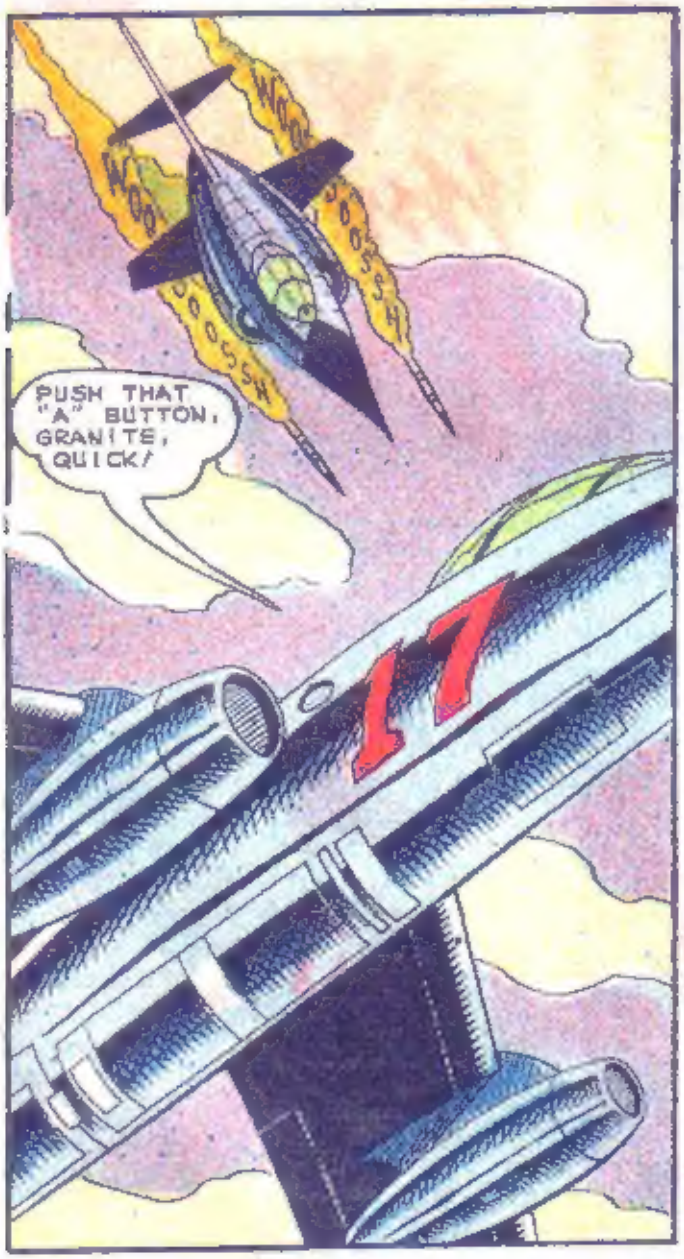
I KNOW, GRANITE! THERE MAY BE SOMETHING WORTH SEEING! START CAMERAS!

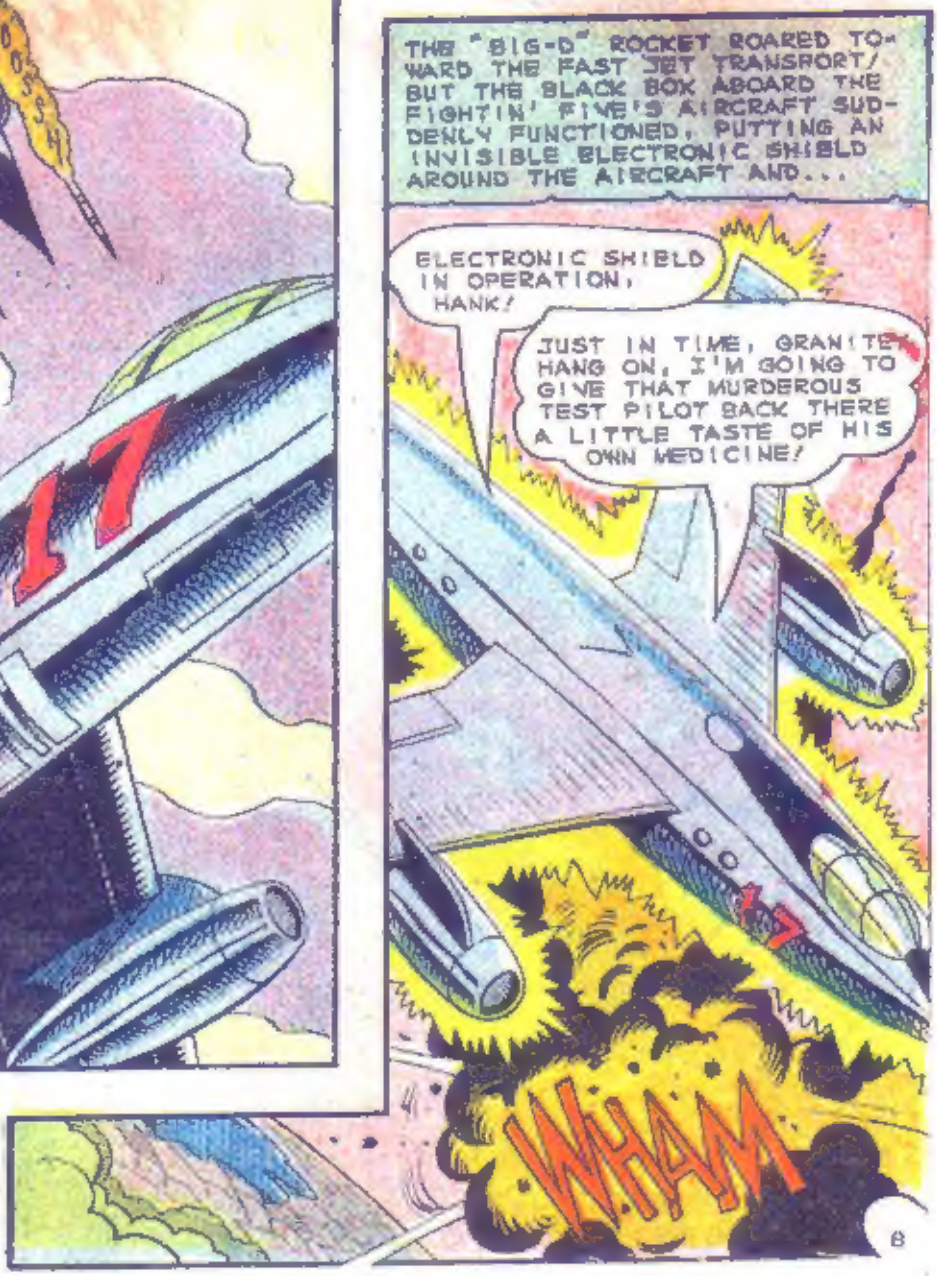

HENNESSEY AT THE CONTROLS CALLED THE MUNICIPAL FIELD TOWER...AS HE DROPPED THE FAST JET LOWER OVER BIG-D'S TEST FIELD!
THIS IS NC10823 CALLING MUNICIPAL TOWER REQUESTING BEARING FROM THE FIELD AND CLEARANCE TO LAND! I... HEH, HEH...GUESS I'M LOST!
START CAMERAS, FRENCHY! WE WON'T GET A CHANCE TO MAKE THIS RUN ACROSS THE FIELD AGAIN!
NC10823, GET CLEAR OF THIS AREA! ACCORDING TO SECURITY CLASSIFICATION FROM THE PENTAGON, WE ARE EMPOWERED TO SHOOT DOWN ANY AIRCRAFT INTRUDING IN THIS AREA! YOU WILL TURN AND LAND SO THAT WE MAY INSPECT YOU!
A SUPERMODERN JET SO NEW THE AIR FORCE HAD NOT YET ORDERED ANY.. SCREAMED OFF THE TARMAC AND WAS AIRBORNE AT A SPEED OF 1000MPH!
SHOOT IT DOWN, ROSSO! MR. STARR PROMISED A BONUS IN SUCH CASES IF INDUSTRIAL SPIES ARE DESTROYED!
THE SLEEK FIGHTER JET, A "BIG-D" PRODUCT, ARMED WITH "BIG-D" ROCKETS ZOOMED IN ON HANK KENNESSEY'S SHIP!
NEXT ONE WILL CREAM YOU, BUSTER!
WOOOOOSSSHHH!!!
LOOKS LIKE BIG-D'S GOT US, HANK!
THE NEXT ROCKET WON'T MISS, GRANITE! HIT THE "A" BUTTON THERE, HIT IT QUICK!
WOOOOOSSSHH!!!
READ PART 2!
THE "BIG-D" BATTLEGROUND

THE "BIG-D" BATTLEGROUND

PART 2

FOR THE FIVE MEN ABOARD THE PASSENGER JET HURTLING ACROSS BIG-D'S TESTING AREA, DEATH SEEMED ONLY SECONDS AWAY/ THE TEST PILOT AT THE CONTROLS OF XLF-116 HAD BEEN CAREFULLY SCREENED FOR THIS JOB...HE HAD ONLY ONE IDEAL...MONEY/ AND A FAT BONUS FOR DESTROYING THE FIGHTIN' FIVE WOULD BE HIS RIGHT AFTER HE PRESSED THE BUTTON AND FIRED THIS NEXT ROCKET/




THE "BIG-D" ROCKET ROARED TOWARD THE FAST JET TRANSPORT/ BUT THE BLACK BOX ABOARD THE FIGHTIN' FIVE'S AIRCRAFT SUDDENLY FUNCTIONED, PUTTING AN INVISIBLE ELECTRONIC SHIELD AROUND THE AIRCRAFT AND...
ELECTRONIC SHIELD IN OPERATION, HANK/
JUST IN TIME, GRANITE HANG ON, I'M GOING TO GIVE THAT MURDEROUS TEST PILOT BACK THERE A LITTLE TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE/
17
WHAM

SNAP-ROLLING THE HEAVY JET, HANK HENNESSEY PLUMMETED AROUND AND DOWN ON THE XLF-116'S TAIL! THE COCKY TEST PILOT MOVED THE THROTTLE FORWARD, EXPECTING TO LEAVE THE SLOWER, BULKIER JET FAR BEHIND...

BUT HENNESSEY HAD ROCKET-PODS FOR EMERGENCY POWER...GIVING HIM A CAPABILITY OF MACH 4 FOR A FEW SECONDS! JUST LONG ENOUGH!

NOW -- BUTTON "B", GRANITE! THAT'S IT!

ZZZZ

HELLO, BIG-D CONTROL FROM TESTING BAKER! COME IN, BIG-D CONTROL! RADIO'S DEAD...GOT A FLAME-OUT! THAT STRANGE AIRCRAFT REALLY DID A JOB ON ME!

WE'LL PROCEED TO MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AND LAND! WE WILL DEBARK AT HOLDING AREA, LEAVING BIG-D PERSONNEL TO FIND OUT THE HARD WAY IN WHOSE NAME THIS SHIP IS REGISTERED! THAT'LL TAKE THEM WEEKS!

A MESSAGE SENT ON AHEAD TO A GOVERNMENT AGENT AT THE G ELD HELPED P ENTY HE SENT AN UNMARKED L MOUS NE TO THE HOLD NG AREA AND THE DRIVER LEFT AT ONCE!

I DEMAND TO KNOW THE DENT TY OF THAT A R CRAFT SNODGRASS! WHAT DO YOU MEAN T S REG S TERED UNDER AN ANONY - MOUS TITLE?

LET S GO! REA TE R DE UP FRONT W TH ME! I'LL VO GUIDE THE BOY AYS ABOUT WHERE YOU WANT US TO DROP YOU OFF!

TH NK THE B G D COMPLEX NEAREST THE PROVING GROUND W LL BE EAS EST FOR US TO GET ACCESS TO R.GHT NOW! THEY VE GOT A CRASH OF THE R NEWEST EXPER MENTAL F GHTER OUT THERE TO WORK ABOUT AND THE R SECUR TY MAY BE LAX!

HALF A MILE FROM THE BIG-D, HANK STOPPED THE CAR TO LET IRV THE NERVE, TOM-TOM, AND FRENCHY THE FOX OUT OF THE L MOUS NE.

YOU RE SURE TH S S THE ONE, IRV?

I TRAVELED FROM ONE END OF BERLIN TO THE OTHER THROUGH THE SEWERS HANK I DON'T MAKE M STAKES L KE THAT!

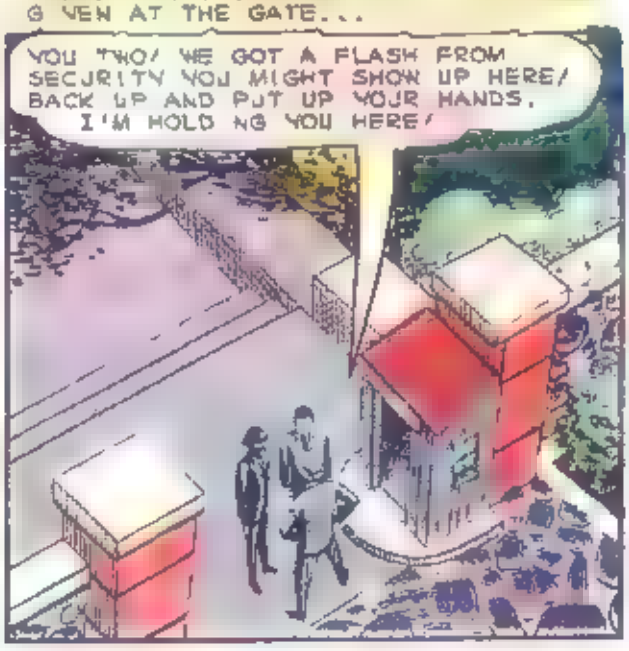
WE VE GOT HALF A MILE TO TRAVEL, FRENCHY! TELL TOM-TOM TO TEST FOR GAS AS SOON AS HE REACHES BOTTOM!

WHILE THESE THREE EXERT GUERILLA F GHTERS WORMED THEIR WAY BENEATH B G D S OUTER BAST ONS, HANK HENNESSEY AND GRAN TE GALLERO PRE- SENTED IMPECCABLE CREDENTIALS AT THE V S TORS' GATE!

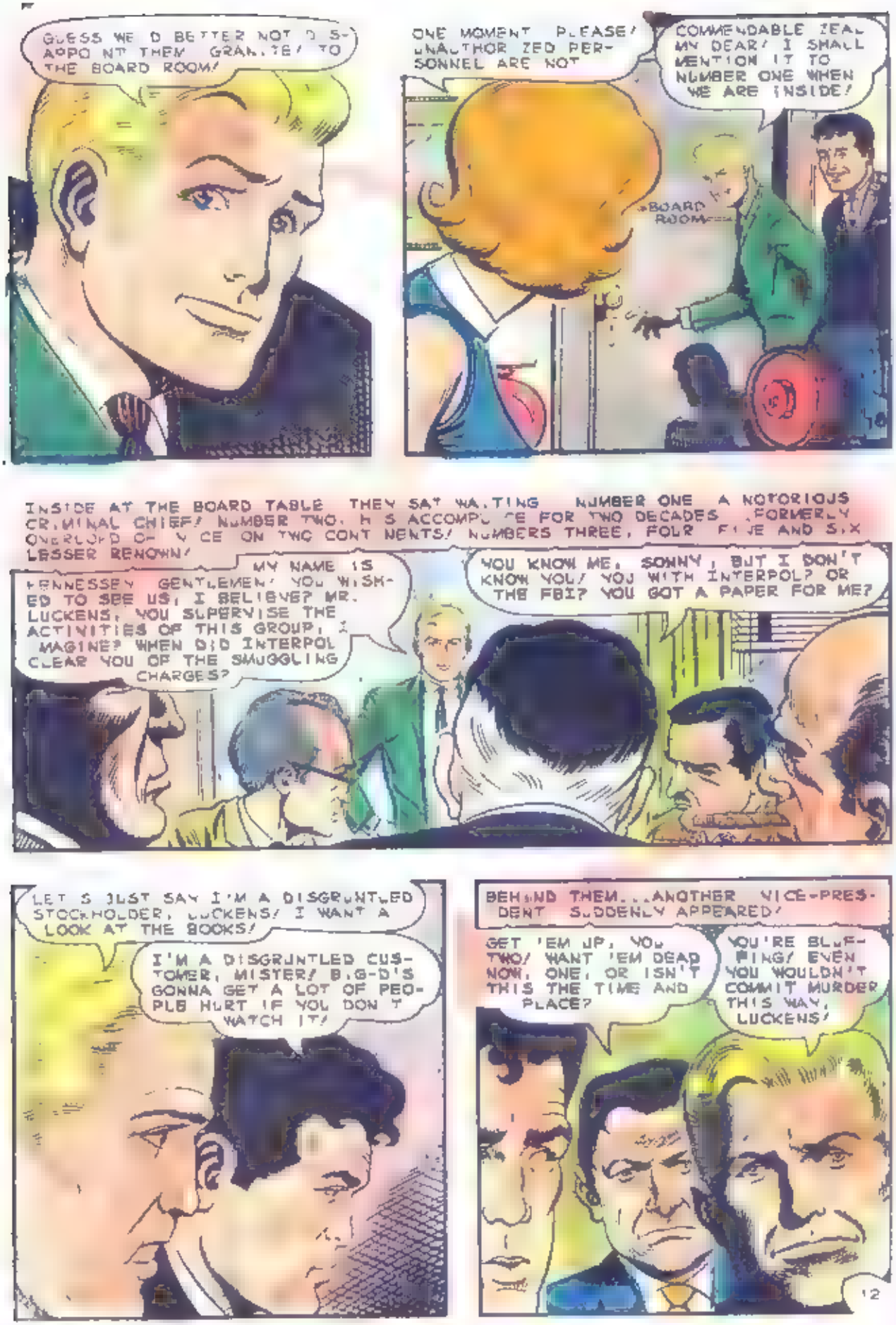
I AM A MAJOR TY STOCK- HOLDER N BIG D CAP- TA N! I HAVE THE R GHT TO INSPECT THE PLANT FACIL TIES!

OF COURSE I WILL G VE YOU A GU DE MR HENNESSEY! A MOMENT, PLEASE!

HANK PARKED THE CAR IN THE PARKING AREA. THEN HE AND GRANITE GALLERO PRESENTED THE PASSES THEY HAD BEEN GIVEN AT THE GATE...

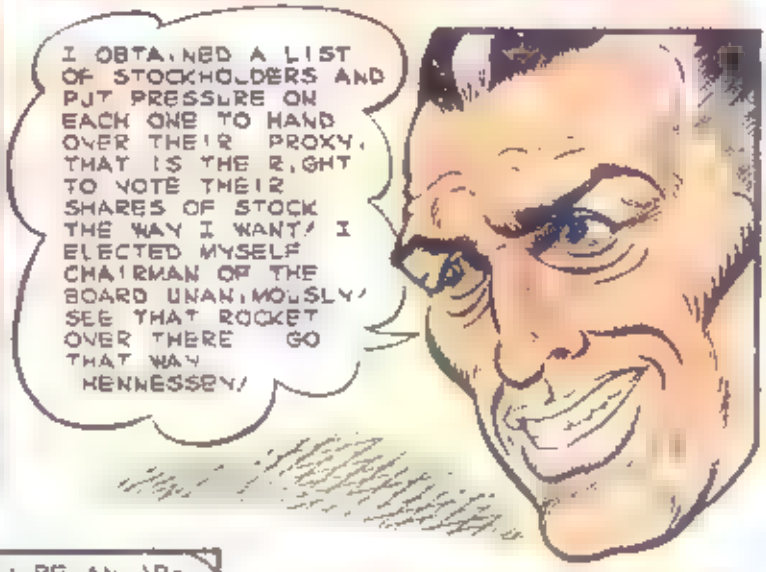


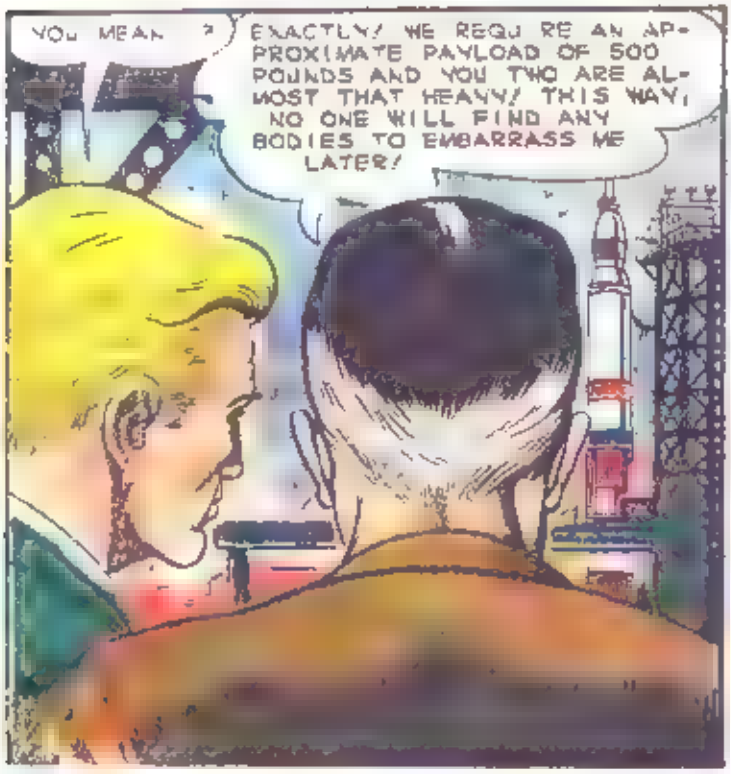
GOGGINS, THIS IS NUMBER TWO/ TAKE THEM CREEPS TO THE BOARD ROOM ..NUMBER ONE WILL QUESTION THEM THERE, GET IT?
GOTCHA, NUMBER TWO/ RIGHT AWAY/


GUESS WE D BETTER NOT D S-
APPO NT THEM GRANTE/ TO
THE BOARD ROOM/
ONE MOMENT PLEASE/
UNAUTHOR ZED PER-
SONNEL ARE NOT
COMMENDABLE ZEAL
MY DEAR/ I SHALL
MENTION IT TO
NUMBER ONE WHEN
WE ARE INSIDE/
BOARD
ROOM
INSIDE AT THE BOARD TABLE THEY SAT WA.TING NUMBER ONE A NOTORIOUS
CR.MINAL CHIEF/ NUMBER TWO, H S ACCOMPL CE FOR TWO DECADES .FORMERLY
OVERLORD OF V CE ON TWO CONT NENTS/ NUMBERS THREE, FOUR FIVE AND SIX
LESSER RENOWN/
MY NAME IS
TENNESSEY GENTLEMEN/ YOU WISH-
ED TO SEE US; I BELIEVE? MR.
LUCKENS, YOU SUPERVISE THE
ACTIVITIES OF THIS GROUP; I
MAGINE? WHEN DID INTERPOL
CLEAR YOU OF THE SMUGGLING
CHARGES?
YOU KNOW ME, SONNY, BUT I DON'T
KNOW YOU/ YOU WITH INTERPOL? OR
THE FBI? YOU GOT A PAPER FOR ME?
LET S JUST SAY I'M A DISGRUNTLED
STOCKHOLDER, LUCKENS/ I WANT A
LOOK AT THE BOOKS/
I'M A DISGRUNTLED CUS-
TOMER, MISTER/ B.G-D'S
GONNA GET A LOT OF PEO-
PLE HURT IF YOU DON T
WATCH IT/
BEHIND THEM...ANOTHER VICE-PRES-
DENT SUDDENLY APPEARED/
GET 'EM UP, YOU
TWO/ WANT 'EM DEAD
NOW, ONE, OR ISN'T
THIS THE TIME AND
PLACE?
YOU'RE BLUF-
FING/ EVEN
YOU WOULDN'T
COMMIT MURDER
THIS WAY,
LUCKENS/

...'E CORRECT, HENNESSEY. I S.OPPED BEING THAT STUP D ABOUT MURDER THIRTY YEARS AGO/ NOW, PROCEED AHEAD OF US OUT TO THE MISSILE TEST PAD/

HOW D D YOU COME TO ACQUIRE BIG-D, LUCKENS? I KNOW YOU DIDN'T PAY CASH FOR ANY SIZABLE BLOCKS OF STOCK/
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS/ I DON'T OWN A SHARE/


I OBTAINED A LIST OF STOCKHOLDERS AND PUT PRESSURE ON EACH ONE TO HAND OVER THEIR PROXY. THAT IS THE RIGHT TO VOTE THEIR SHARES OF STOCK THE WAY I WANT/ I ELECTED MYSELF CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY/ SEE THAT ROCKET OVER THERE GO THAT WAY HENNESSEY/


YOU MEAN ?
EXACTLY/ WE REQUIRE AN APPROXIMATE PAYLOAD OF 500 POUNDS AND YOU TWO ARE ALMOST THAT HEAVY/ THIS WAY, NO ONE WILL FIND ANY BODIES TO EMBARRASS ME LATER/

GRANITE GALLERO LOOKED MEANINGFULLY AT HANK AND THEN WHIRLED...
SMAK
GET TO THE ROCKET SITE. . NUMBER ONE'S HAVIN' TROUBLE WITH THEM TWO/

I'LL GET 'EM BOTH WITH THE ANESTHETIZER!
KEEP THAT TH NG AWAY FROM ..ZZZZZZZZMMMMMM
HISS, ST
THEN D DN T LOSE ANY TIME THEN/ THE BIG D H RELINGS LOADED GRANITE AND HANK INTO THE CRAMPED NOSE CONE OF 'B G-D'S ' NEWEST PROD. T/
NOW ."B G-D" WILL SUCCESSFULLY TEST ANOTHER SUPERIOR PRODUCT/
THEN UCKENS THE WORLD S MOST NIC OUS GANGSTER PRESSED THE BUTTON WHICH WOULD SEND HANK HENNESSEY AND GRANITE GALLERO ROCKETING INTO SPACE, PERHAPS TO ORBIT FOREVER/
NOW/
READ PART 3 STOLEN EMPIRE

STOLEN EMPIRE

PART 3

THE BUTTON WAS PUSHED AND THE R FATE SEALED BUT THE ROCKET FA LED TO R SE/ IN SUDDEN PAN'C LUCKENS SMASHED DOWN ON THE ARRAY OF BUTTONS ON THE ROCKET-C'ONTROL-CONSOLE NOTH NG HAPPENED/ HE SNATCHED AT A TELE-PHONE .IT D DN T WORK/ "IRN THE NERVE" HAGANAH AND H S BOYS HAD ARR VED/

TOM-TOM, GRAB THAT GUY AT THE NSTRUMENTS/ LUCKY WE PULLED THE MAIN POWER SWITCH...SHUT OFF THEIR COMMUNICATIONS TOO/

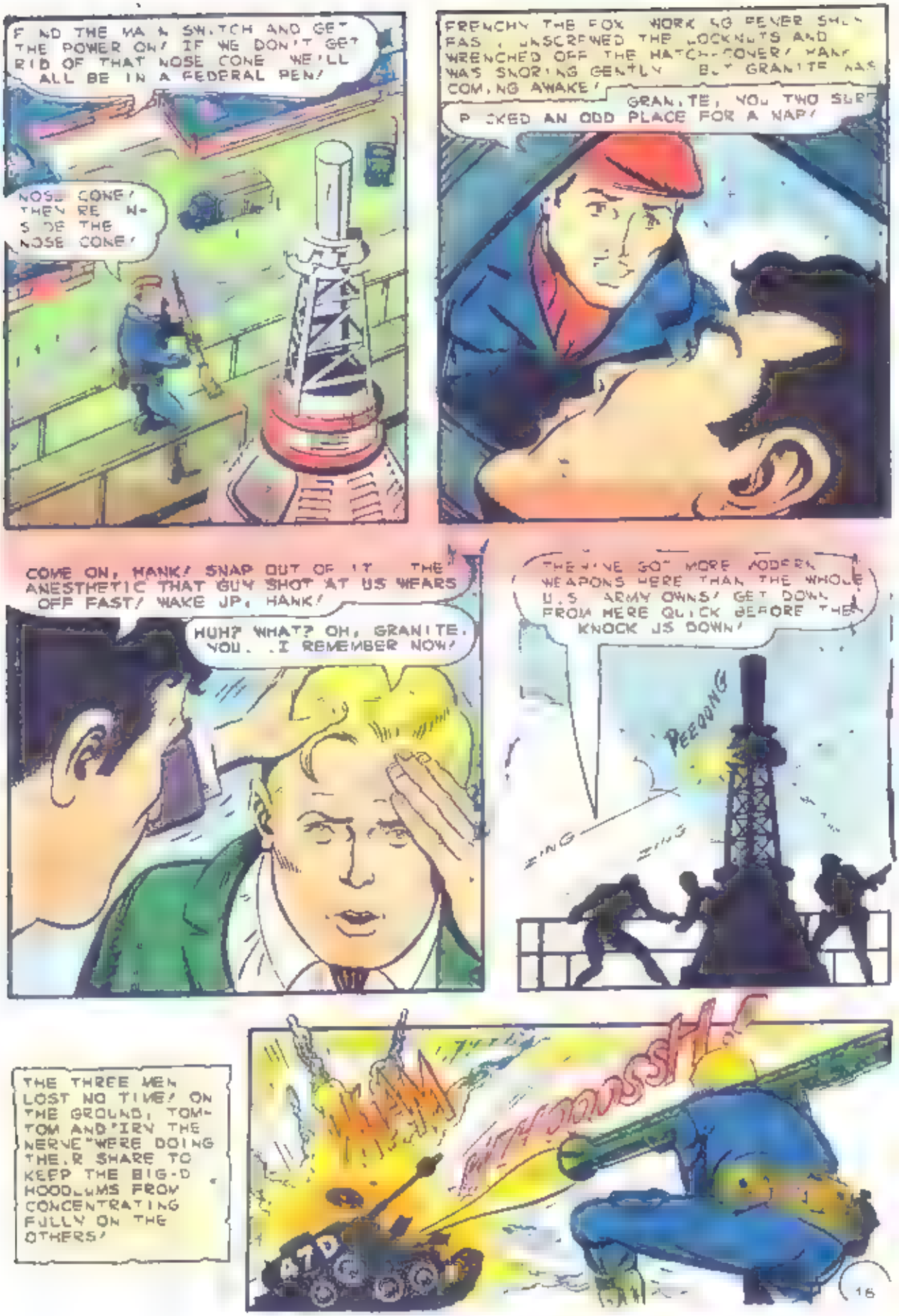
POW POW!

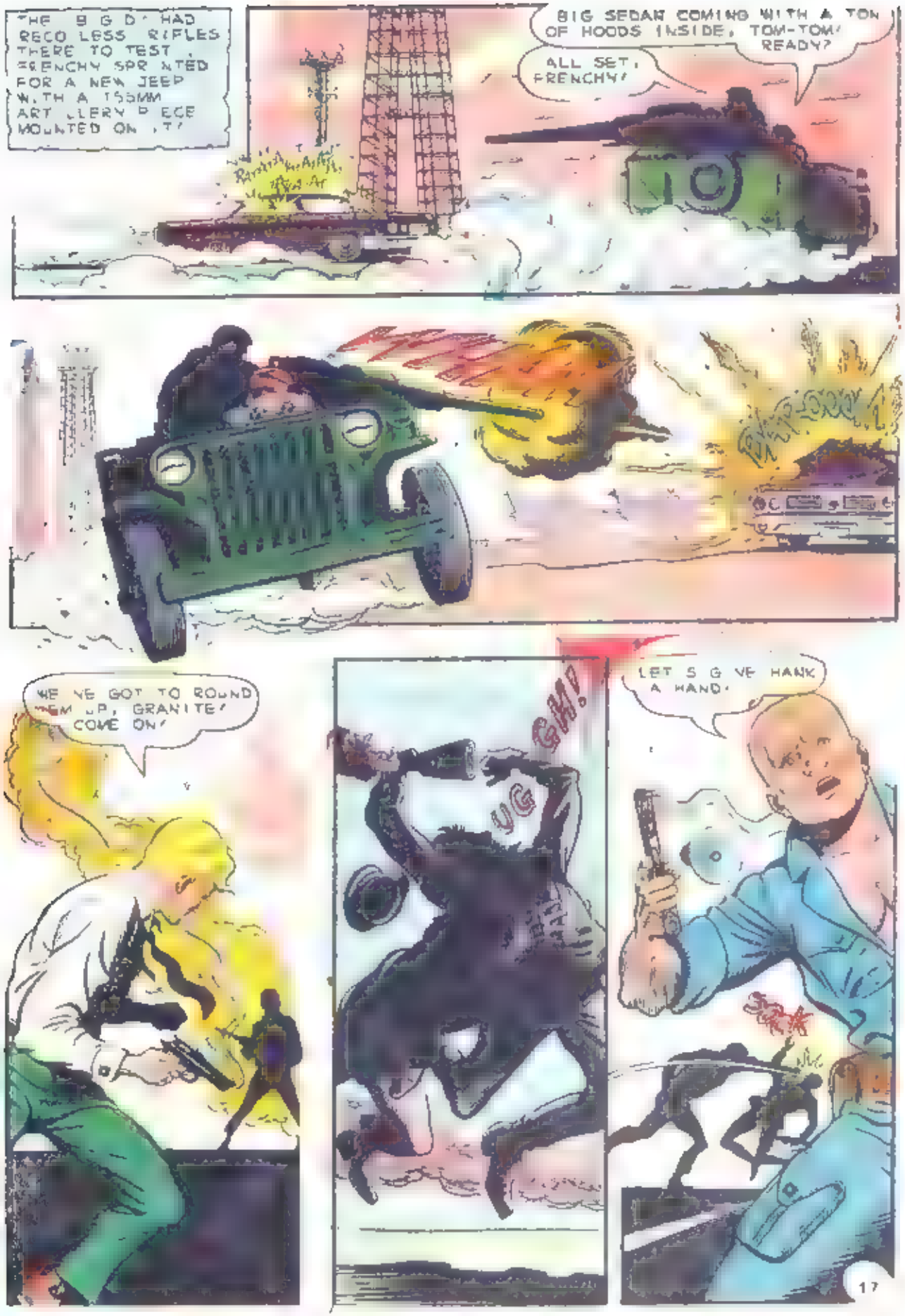
RAT-TATTAT

RAT TATTA TAT

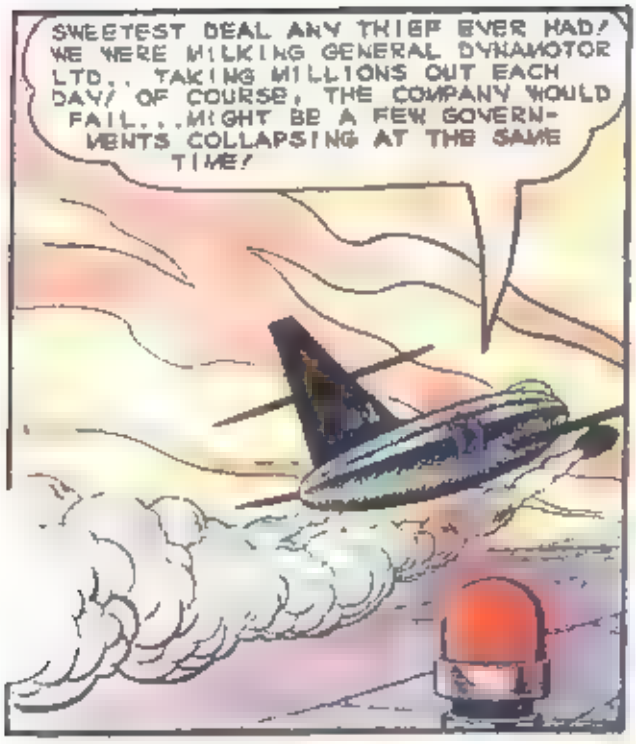
HANK AND GRANITE ARE MISSING AND THIS IS THE PLACE THEY'RE TRYING TO KEEP US FROM REACHING.. HENCE, THIS IS WHERE THEY GOT OUR BOYS/

POW POW!

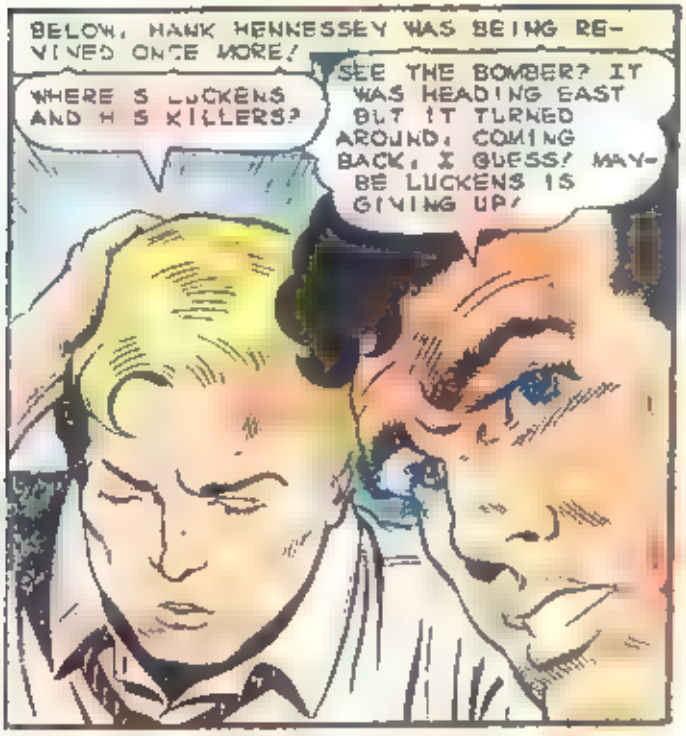

F ND THE MA N SW.TCH AND GET THE POWER ON! IF WE DON'T GET RID OF THAT NOSE CONE WE'LL ALL BE IN A FEDERAL PEN!
NOSE CONE! THEN RE N- S DE THE NOSE CONE!
FRENCHY THE FOX WORK SO FEVER SHE FAS . UNSCREWED THE LOCKNUTS AND WRENCHED OFF THE HATCH-COVER! HANK WAS SNOR'NG GENTLY BUT GRANITE WAS COM.NG AWAKE!
GRAN.TE, YOU TWO SURE P CKED AN ODD PLACE FOR A NAP!
COME ON, HANK! SNAP OUT OF IT THE ANESTHETIC THAT GUY SHOT AT US WEARS OFF FAST! WAKE UP, HANK!
HUH? WHAT? OH, GRANITE. YOU. .I REMEMBER NOW!
THEY'VE GOT MORE MODERN WEAPONS HERE THAN THE WHOLE U.S ARMY OWNS! GET DOWN FROM HERE QUICK BEFORE THEY KNOCK US DOWN!
PEEQUING
ZING
ZING
THE THREE MEN LOST NO TIME! ON THE GROUND, TOM-TOM AND 'IRV THE NERVE "WERE DOING THEIR SHARE TO KEEP THE BIG-D HOODLUMS FROM CONCENTRATING FULLY ON THE OTHERS!
WHAM
WITH WOOSSH!
ATD


THE B G D' HAD RECO LESS RIFLES THERE TO TEST , =RENCHY SPR NTED FOR A NEW JEEP W.TH A 155MM ART LLERY P ECE MOUNTED ON IT!
BIG SEDAN COMING WITH A TON OF HOODS INSIDE, TOM-TOM! READY?
ALL SET, FRENCHY!
WE VE GOT TO ROUND EM UP, GRANITE! COME ON!
UGH!
LET S G VE HANK A HAND!
17

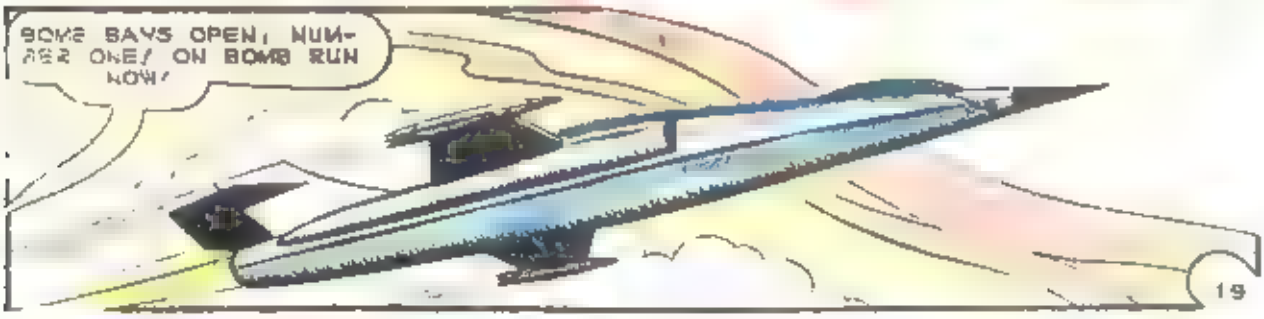
TRY TO GET A GOVERNMENT AGENCY ON THE RAD O. GRAN TE/ ASK FOR HELP/ IDENTIFY LUCKENS AND THE OTHER HOODS/ MAYBE THE FBI WILL LEND A HAND/ WE'RE GOING TO NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET/
GUARDS ARMED W TH THE SLEEP GAS OPENED UP/ ONCE MORE HANK AND GRANITE WENT DOWN
NOW -- I'LL F X THEM FOR GOOD/
HANK'S IN A JAM, TOM-TOM/ SEE HOW CLOSE YOU CAN COME TO LUCKENS WITHOUT HURTING HANK/
MR LUCKENS THE NEW JET BOMBER S READY FOR TAKE-OFF/
WE'LL HAVE HIM KNOCKED OFF, MR LUCKENS/ COME ON/
ALL RIGHT I M COM.NG BUT I LL HAVE THE BOYS TAKE CARE OF HIM/
ZING
ZING
ZING
18

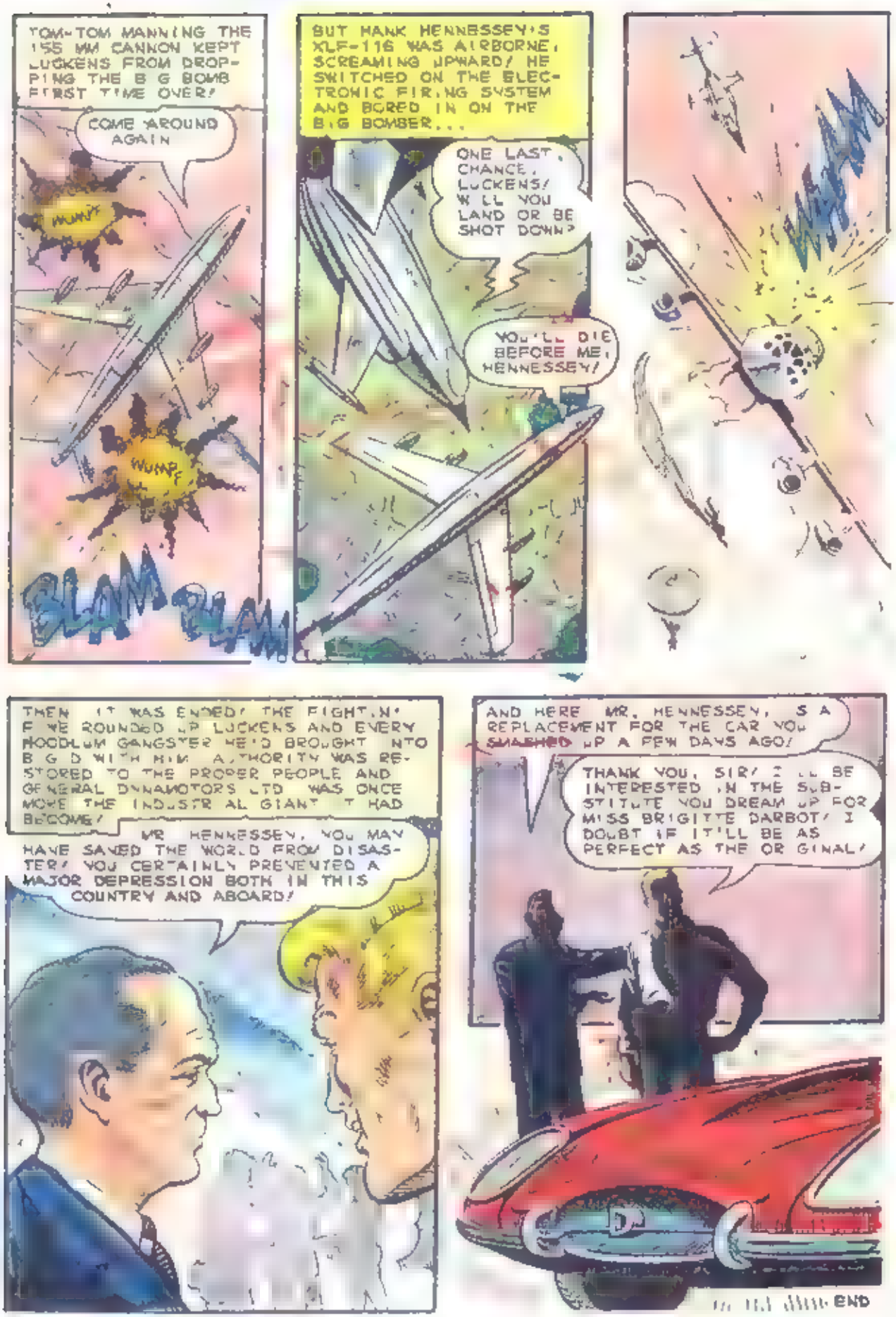

SWEETEST DEAL ANY THIEF EVER HAD! WE WERE MILKING GENERAL DYNAMOTOR LTD., TAKING MILLIONS OUT EACH DAY! OF COURSE, THE COMPANY WOULD FAIL...MIGHT BE A FEW GOVERNMENTS COLLAPSING AT THE SAME TIME!

THE COBALT BOMB IS ABOARD! TURN BACK...FLY OVER THE BIG-D TESTING AREA! IF I CAN'T RUN THE PLANT, I'LL WIPE IT OUT!


BELOW, HANK HENNESSEY WAS BEING REVIVED ONCE MORE!
WHERE'S LUCKENS AND HIS KILLERS?
SEE THE BOMBER? IT WAS HEADING EAST BUT IT TURNED AROUND, COMING BACK, I GUESS! MAYBE LUCKENS IS GIVING UP!

LUCKENS HAS GONE TOO FAR TO GIVE UP! HE'S COMING BACK TO WIPE US OUT! YOU MAN THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNITS. GRANITE! I'LL TAKE THEIR NEW FIGHTER UP!


BOMB BAYS OPEN, NUMBER ONE! ON BOMB RUN NOW!


TOM-TOM MANNING THE 155 MM CANNON KEPT LUCKENS FROM DROPPING THE B G BOMB FIRST TIME OVER!
COME AROUND AGAIN
WUMP!
WUMP!
BLAM BLAM
BUT HANK HENNESSEY'S XLF-116 WAS AIRBORNE, SCREAMING UPWARD! HE SWITCHED ON THE ELECTRONIC FIRING SYSTEM AND BORED IN ON THE BIG BOMBER...
ONE LAST CHANCE, LUCKENS! WILL YOU LAND OR BE SHOT DOWN?
YOU'LL DIE BEFORE ME, HENNESSEY!
WHAM
THEN IT WAS ENDED! THE FIGHTING F WE ROUNDED UP LUCKENS AND EVERY MOBDOM GANGSTER HE'D BROUGHT INTO B G D WITH HIM. AUTHORITY WAS RESTORED TO THE PROPER PEOPLE AND GENERAL DYNAMOTORS LTD WAS ONCE MORE THE INDUSTRIAL GIANT IT HAD BECOME!
MR. HENNESSEY, YOU MAY HAVE SAVED THE WORLD FROM DISASTER! YOU CERTAINLY PREVENTED A MAJOR DEPRESSION BOTH IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABOARD!
AND HERE, MR. HENNESSEY, IS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE CAR YOU SMASHED UP A FEW DAYS AGO!
THANK YOU, SIR! I'LL BE INTERESTED IN THE SUBSTITUTE YOU DREAM UP FOR MISS BRIGITTE DARBOT! I DOUBT IF IT'LL BE AS PERFECT AS THE ORIGINAL!
END

THE PHANTOM OF THE SAHARA

WHEN MARSHAL ROMMEL ARRIVED IN NORTH AFRICA IN FEBRUARY 1941, HE TOLD HIS AIDES "STAY CLOSE TO ME! I'M BULLET PROOF!" AND ANYONE WHO DIED UNLUCKILY GAINED WITH HIS LIFE BECAUSE ERWIN ROMMEL CONSTANTLY DREW ENEMY FIRE! ROMMEL HAD A PROBLEM... TO HALT THE BRITISH GENERAL WAVELL'S 8TH ARMY WITH A GASTLY INFERIOR FORCE! WHEN HE LANDED AHEAD OF HIS TANKS WAVELL WAS ABOUT TO CRUSH THE ITALIAN FORCES AT TRIPOLITANIA! ROMMEL ARRIVED WITH TWO TANKS! BUT HE BLUFFED THE BRITISH INTO BELIEVING HIS FAMED AFRIKA KORPS WAS BEHIND HIM!

IT'S ROMMEL LEADING HIS AFRICA KORPS IN A FULL STRENGTH ATTACK ON THE BRITISH POSITION!

PING

PING

PING

PING

PING

BUT ROMMEL'S TANKS WERE STILL ABOARD GERMAN SHIPS, HOW COULD HE ATTACK QUICKLY? EASILY, HE'D HAD ITALIAN BUILD MOCK TANKS ON TINY LITTLE VOLKSWAGON CHASSIS!

WITH THIS PHANTOM TANK FORCE I SHALL DRIVE WAVELL BACK INTO THE DESERT!

HIS ITALIAN BLUFF SUCCEEDED AND GENERAL WAVELL WITHDREW HIS FORCES

YOU WILL ATTACK THE BRITISH AT ONCE!

A-408d

THIS IS THE 15TH LIGHT DIVISION AND ONLY A FEW ELEMENTS ARE HERE. HERE MARSHAL
WE MUST NOT LET THE BRITISH ADVANCE. ATTACK! ATTACK AGAIN, AND AGAIN UNTIL THE BRITISH BELIEVE WE HAVE ENTIRE FORCE IS ALREADY HERE IN AFRICA!
THEIR SUPPLY LINES ARE LONG AND VULNERABLE! THE FUEHRER HAS PROMISED MORE AIRCRAFT FOR US!
ROMMEL HAS ALWAYS OUTNUMBERED IN THE NORTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGN, BUT HE WAS IN THE THICK OF EVERY BATTLE CROSSING AND RECROSSING THE LINES, GOING DEEP BEHIND THE BRITISH LINES IN THAT FAMOUS CAR OF HIS!
GOSH! LOOK! IT'S THE DESERT FOX HIMSELF! IT'S ROMMEL!
HE WAS ON TOP OF EACH CHANGING SITUATION, ALWAYS READY TO INSTANTLY SNAP NEW ORDERS, RESCINDING OLD ONES. HE ENJOYED A BIG ADVANTAGE IN TIME OVER HIS ADVERSARIES WHO FOUGHT THEIR BATTLES FROM TENTS IN REAR AREAS AND LOST VALUABLE TIME GETTING INFORMATION AND SENDIN' FRESH ORDERS!
HIS MAIN FORCE HAS JUST SMASHED THROUGH OUR LINES, ON THE LEFT FLANK! HE'S DONE IT AGAIN!
WHAT IS HE UP TO NOW? WHERE IS THAT BIG TANK COLUMN WE
NO TANK COLUMN AT ALL GENERAL! THE HUGE DUST CLOUDS WE SAW WERE CREATED BY TRUCKS WITH DUST-RAISING PROPELLERS MOUNTED BEHIND!
2

IN A CAPTURED BRITISH TANK HE CALLED "THE MAMMOTH", ERWIN ROMMEL WENT EVERYWHERE! ONCE, IN A CAPTURED TANK, HE WAS BEHIND THE BRITISH LINES, STOPPED TO OBSERVE FOR A MOMENT, WHEN A BRITISH TOMMY APPROACHED AND BANGED ON THE SIDE OF THE TANK WITH HIS CANTEEN!

OPEN UP IN THERE, MATEY!

IT WAS ROMMEL, OF COURSE! NO ONE KNOWS WHY HE DID IT...BUT HE POPPED OPEN THE HATCH AND THE BRITISH SOLDIER ALMOST FAINTED!

A...NAZI GENERAL! GENERAL? IT'S ROMMEL HIMSELF!

AND OFF HE WENT BEFORE HE COULD BE CAPTURED! WITH HIS AFRIKA KORPS, GENERAL ERWIN ROMMEL EARNED THE PRAISE OF HIS ENEMIES AS WELL AS HIS OWN COUNTRYMEN!

KLANK KLANK

HE ACCOMPLISHED THE INCREDIBLE, THE IMPOSSIBLE, TIME AFTER TIME! HIS OWN ENLISTED MEN LOVED HIM, EVEN THE BRITISH FORCES HAD A KIND OR RELUCTANT ADMIRATION AND AFFECTION FOR THIS GENIUS OF DESERT WARFARE! HE CAPTURED TOBRUK AND WAS MADE A FIELD MARSHAL BY HITLER!

CONGRATULATIONS, FIELD-MARSHAL ROMMEL!

I WOULD HAVE RATHER HAD ANOTHER ARMORED DIVISION THAN THIS PROMOTION!

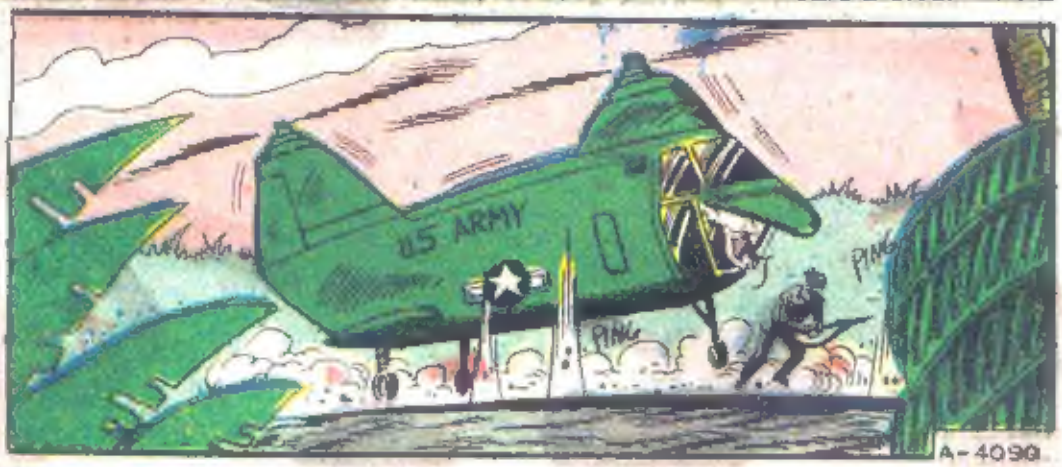
BUT THE END WAS INEVITABLE! UNABLE TO GET GASOLINE OR SUPPLIES, HE WAS RECALLED TO GERMANY...HAD A TIFF WITH HITLER...AND WAS DISILLUSIONED! IN 1942, HE ALMOST REACHED ALEXANDRIA BUT THEN THE U.S. AND BRITISH TROOPS COMBINED ENDED HIS DREAMS OF CONQUEST!

END

THE INSTANT ARMY

TODAY, WITH EXISTING FACILITIES IN THE UNITED STATES, A DIVISION MAY BE AIRLIFTED WITH ALL ITS ARMS AND ARMOR AROUND THE WORLD IN A MATTER OF HOURS/ 150 FULLY EQUIPPED COMBAT TROOPS CAN GO ABOARD A JET TRANSPORT AT A U.S. AIRFIELD IN THE UNITED STATES...

THESE HUGE 500 MPH PLUS TRANSPORTS WILL DELIVER THE MEN TO THE AREA/ FROM THERE THE HUGE HELICOPTERS WILL AIRLIFT THEM TO SPECIFIC SPOTS WHERE THEY'VE GOT TO FIGHT/



A-4090

WHAT THEY'LL NEED WILL BE AIRDROPPED IN...HEAVY TANKS, HEAVY ARTILLERY...

GET SET UP...WE'LL SOFTEN UP THE RESISTANCE FORCES WITH A BARRAGE, THEN THROW AN ARMORED ATTACK AT 'EM/

YES, THE ARMIES DON'T HAVE TO BE SPREAD THIN AT TROUBLE SPOTS ALL OVER THE WORLD/ THE TROOPS NEED ONLY BE READY, THEIR EQUIPMENT ALWAYS READY TO MOVE...AND THEN WAIT FOR THE CALL/

I CUSSED THAT BIG AIRPLANE WHEN WE COME OUT HERE...BUT I'M SURE ALL FOR IT NOW ON THE WAY HOME/

END

America's favorite candy maker says:

"Amaze your friends with my Willy Wonka Magic Card Trick Kit!"

Make cards appear to pass back and forth through a table!

"Have your friends watch you put a 3 of clubs in an envelope and hold a 7 of diamonds under a table. The envelope, when opened, holds the 7 and you bring the 3 out from under the table. What a switch and *you* can do it!"

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If coupon is missing, write your name and address plainly and send with 35¢ and two empty Willy Wonka packages to Willy Wonka Card Trick Offer, P.O. Box 123, Bethalto, IL 62010.

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Willy Wonka Card Trick Offer, P.O. Box 123, Bethalto, IL 62010.

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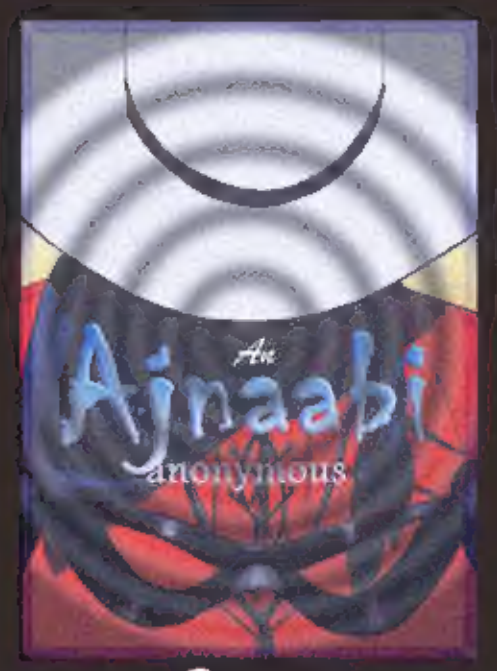

Preservation